stronghold on the south bank of the Pasig River, and Rajah Lakandola had his town on the north bank.

Agriculture was then in a comparatively prosperous condition. Fishing, weaving, and metal-working were among the common occupations. The material wealth was considerable. Standard weights and measures were used. The year was divided into lunar months. The people had a peculiar phonetic alphabet. The laws were both written and unwritten. In short, it can safely be asserted that long before the coming of the Spaniards, the inhabitants of the Philippines had acquired a culture distinctly their own.

When, therefore, the Spaniards took over the Philippines from the Filipinos, the latter were divided politically, but in wealth and civilization they were fairly comparable with the early history of other progressive races. What would have happened in the Philippines had it not been for the conquest by the Spaniards is problematical. Probably the Moro invasion from the south would have persisted and eventually the Philippines would have been consolidated into one or more Mohammedan States. But that was not to be the fate of the Filipinos. To them was to come not only the crescent of the Moslems but the cross of the Spaniards and the democracy of the Americans.

Except for a brief interval during the Seven Years' War when the British occupied the Islands, the Spaniards were in control of the Philippines for over three

centuries. The Philippines was a part of a Spanish empire which in its heyday included South America and a goodly portion of North America. From Mexico, in 1564, there came to the Philippines an expedition commanded by Miguel Lopez de Le-

[6] **See Edward Gaylord Bourne, Historical Introduction to Blair and Robertson, *The Philippine Islands* (1903), Vol. I, pp. 1-87.**